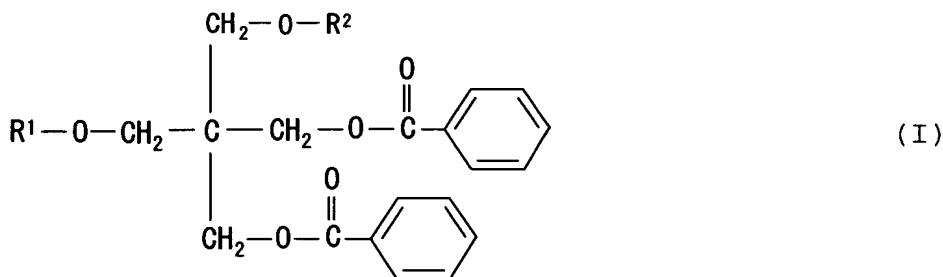


CLAIMS

1. A cosmetic composition comprising:

an ester of pentaerythritol and a benzoic acid having the formula (I):

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wherein R¹ and R² independently indicate a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched fatty acid residue having 1 to 24 carbon atoms or a benzoic acid residue and
15 a cosmetically acceptable carrier.

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2. A cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R¹ of the ester of pentaerythritol and benzoic acid of said formula (I) is a 2-ethylhexanoic acid residue and R² is a benzoic acid residue.

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3. A cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amount blended of the ester of pentaerythritol and benzoic acid of formula (I) is 5 to 80% by mass.

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4. A cosmetic composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the cosmetic composition is a lipstick.